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To: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill: HB 749 - Health Occupations - Dental Hygienists - Authority to Prescribe and Administer Medication
Date: February 18, 2020
Position: Support

The Maryland Dental Action Committee (MDAC) supports *House Bill 749 – Health Occupations – Dental Hygienists – Authority to Prescribe and Administer Medication*. The bill provides for limited prescriptive authority to dental hygienists related to fluoride products and ibuprofen.

MDAC supports this legislation because it will increase access to fluoride products for which a prescription is needed. These fluoride products reduce the risk of decay for both children and adults, particularly those without access to fluoridated water.ⁱ Many Maryland communities rely on well water, so fluoride products are essential in maintaining dental health. MDAC believes that dental hygienists have the education and training to prescribe these products safely and effectively.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/basics/fluoride-products.html>

Optimal Oral Health for All Marylanders